TRENDS

ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN RAILROADS

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A327-2

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, September 21, 1989 -- Carloadings* originated on major U.S. railroads during the week ended September 16 totaled 343,408, down 3.6 percent from the comparable week of 1988 and 12.4 percent above the preceding holiday week of 1989, the Association of American Railroads (AAR) reported today. The railroads reporting account for approximately 94 percent of all rail carloads.

Carloadings originated were down 3.7 percent in the West and 3.4 percent in the East, compared with a year ago.

From the comparable 1988 week, loadings of coal were up 1,391 cars (1.1 percent). Grain was off by 5,463 cars (17.5 percent) and loadings of motor vehicles and equipment were down 2,346 cars (11.5 percent).

Cumulative carloadings for the first 37 weeks of 1989 totaled 12,284,084, down 1.0 percent from the comparable period a year ago.

Intermodal traffic on Class I railroads -- which is not included in the carloadings -- totaled 121,102 trailers and/or containers for the week ended September 16, up 2.9 percent from the comparable week of 1988.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 37 weeks of 1989 was 4,163,421 trailers and/or containers, 3.1 percent above the comparable 1988 total.

The AAR also estimated that ton-miles carried on major railroads in the week ended September 16 totaled 19.6 billion, 3.0 percent below the comparable week of 1988. Cumulative volume for the first 37 weeks of 1989 was an estimated 705.6 billion ton-miles, about the same as the comparable period of last year.

**Because of changes in reporting, 1989 figures are not comparable to previous years, except for 1988, which has been restated for purposes of comparison with 1989.*

(more)

WEEKLY TRAFFIC OF MAJOR RAILROADS
FOR THE WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 16, 1989

CARLOADS ORIGINATED, BY COMMODITY GROUP

COMMODITY	WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 16, 1989	COMPARISON WITH SAME WEEK OF 1988	CHANGE	COMPARISON WITH PRECEDING WEEK	CHANGE
Grain	25,712	31,175	-17.5 %	21,384	20.2 %
Farm Products, Ex. Grain	1,353	1,786	-24.2	888	52.4
Metallic Ores	20,936	20,732	1.0	20,246	3.4
Coal	130,367	128,976	1.1	119,748	8.9
Crushed Stone, Sand & Gravel	18,232	18,897	-3.5	14,752	23.6
Nonmetallic Minerals	9,545	10,709	-10.9	8,800	8.5
Grain Mill Products	9,909	10,512	-5.7	8,830	12.2
Food & Kindred Products	8,411	8,840	-4.9	7,712	9.1
Primary Forest Products	9,441	10,074	-6.3	8,035	17.5
Lumber & Wood Products	6,357	7,061	-10.0	5,016	26.7
Pulp, Paper & Allied Products	10,198	10,965	-7.0	10,290	-.9
Chemicals	26,873	26,946	-.3	24,717	8.7
Petroleum Products	5,365	5,133	4.5	4,851	10.6
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	11,462	10,809	6.0	9,637	18.9
Coke	5,546	5,699	-2.7	5,449	1.8
Metals & Products	9,235	10,076	-8.3	7,879	17.2
Motor Vehicles & Equipment	18,041	20,387	-11.5	14,772	22.1
Waste & Scrap Materials	8,936	9,661	-7.5	6,595	35.5
All Other Carloads	7,489	7,712	-2.9	5,856	27.9
Total	**343,408**	**356,150**	**-3.6 %**	**305,457**	**12.4 %**

SUMMARY: CARLOADS ORIGINATED, INTERMODAL TRAFFIC AND ESTIMATED TON-MILES

TRAFFIC	WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 16, 1989 1989	1988	CHANGE	CUMULATIVE: 37 WEEKS ENDING SEPTEMBER 16, 1989 1989	1988	CHANGE
Carloads Originated	**343,408**	**356,150**	**-3.6 %**	**12,284,084**	**12,403,161**	**-1.0 %**
Intermodal Traffic Originated						
Trailers	69,924	69,950	.0	2,410,193	2,437,922	-1.1
Containers	51,178	47,720	7.2	1,753,228	1,601,061	9.5
Total	**121,102**	**117,670**	**2.9**	**4,163,421**	**4,038,983**	**3.1**
Estimated Ton-Miles						
Class I Railroads (Billions)	**19.6**	**20.2**	**-3.0 %**	**705.6 r**	**705.8 r**	**.0 %**

r Cumulative ton-miles revised to reflect revisions in Week 37, 1988, carloadings.

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